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## STATE OF HAWAII DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES

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Aloha! Welcome to the State of Hawaii Department of Human Services (DHS) website. Our agency is entrusted with improving the lives of the most vulnerable and needy adults and children across the Islands.

As the second-largest State department, DHS manages an annual budget of nearly \$2.6 billion. Our employees work hard to provide timely, efficient and effective programs, benefits and services that empower clients to achieve self-sufficiency, self-determination, independence, healthy lifestyles and personal dignity.

The DHS administers four human services divisions: <u>Benefit, Employment and Support Services Division (BESSD)</u>, <u>Social Services Division (SSD)</u>, <u>Med-QUEST Division (MQD)</u>, and Division of Vocational Rehabilitation (DVR).

The DHS also has four administratively attached agencies and commissions: <u>Hawaii Public Housing Authority (HPHA)</u>, <u>Office of Youth Services (OYS)</u>, <u>Hawaii State Commission on the Status of Women (HSCSW)</u> and <u>State Commission on Fatherhood (SCF)</u>.

By working closely with our many community partners, the DHS is able to:

- Help clients escape poverty and achieve full employment;
- Prevent abuse and neglect among children and vulnerable adults;
- Strengthen families and promotes positive youth development;
- Provide public health insurance for low-income adults and children; and
- Empower people with disabilities so they can enter or re-enter the workforce.

You can learn more about these programs, benefits and services by exploring the DHS website. Please contact us if you believe we can help you or your family.

Patricia McManaman, Director, Department of Human Services